To: Marc Schneider
Subject: FW: Crime Analysis of Shootings
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 10:42:03 AM
Attachments: ShootingStruck.pdf
ConsistentShootingHotspots.pdf

Chief -

Apparently I didn't push send on the email I referenced this morning. We are trying to do something about the volume of shootings, and asked Lorie to help. Below is Lorie's response. As you can see, there are many references to gang intelligence. Currently, with SET shut down, we have a gap in the intelligence area.

This is worth further discussion.

Dan

Dan Cohen, Division Commander
Santa Maria Police Department
(805) 928-3781 X-1234

From: Lorie Velarde <lvelarde@cityofsantamaria.org>
Sent: Sunday, November 21, 2021 4:53 PM
To: PD Crime Analysis <PDCrimeAnalysis@cityofsantamaria.org>
Subject: Crime Analysis of Shootings

Hi Lt. Flaa and Crime Analysis Team,
On Friday, Jane and I discussed your request for the immediate need of analysis of Santa Maria's shootings. Unlike property crimes, shootings are crimes with targets chosen based on factors related mostly to who the victim is. While some shooters may be indiscriminate in target choice, the majority operate similarly to offenders in homicides and assaults. Retaliation can also be a factor in gang-related crimes, and the result is tit for tat crimes, with each new crime providing the incentive for future crimes. Patterns in shootings are related to those associated with street gangs, specific persons, retaliation tit for tats, perceived grievances, and problem addresses.
In order to analyze shootings properly, the following information will need to be captured for each case:

- Suspect information to include:
    - Vehicle and suspect description
    - Gang affiliation of suspects (if known)
- Victim information to include:
    - Victim personal descriptors
    - Criminal history
    - Gang affiliation (if any)
    - Associates
- Location of shooting

    - Business, house, vehicle, etc.
    - Gang affiliation of location
    - Behavior occurring at the location

- Weapon used

    - Caliber
    - Ballistics

- Temporal factors

    - Time of day
    - Day of week
    - Special event/holiday

- Investigative Information

    - Suspects identified?
    - Forensic and other leads?
    - Matches to other cases?

Sgt. Magallon has provided us with some information, and we have created a crime analysis module to assist in capturing case information, but the process will involve reading each report, which is time-consuming. Information sharing with detectives is also critical and should occur regularly.

In terms of analysis, I recommend the following products be completed and distributed:

- CAU products of suspects/vehicles be distributed to patrol officers as soon as possible after each new crime
- CAU products of problem locations with information about occupants/owners, associates, and history for distribution to patrol
- Creation of a citywide map of street gang affiliation by neighborhood

    - CAU products on new shootings should identify the gang affiliation of the location

- Map of consistent shooting hotspots (hotspots of older crimes + hotspots of new crimes = consistent hotspots) and associated temporal factors
- Identification of problem addresses (businesses, homes, etc.)
- Identification of high risk times/days/locations for shootings
- Identification of pre-cursors to shootings such as fights, assaults, gang tagging, etc.
- Identification of shootings that may involve the same offender(s) = serial crimes
- Link charts of offenders to identify the criminal networks involved in shootings

I have already created automated reports for the following:

- Shooting offense listing for the past 30 days – distributed weekly on Mondays
- Shooting map for the past month – distributed monthly
- Shooting offense chart for the past month – distributed monthly

I believe I can improve on the automated map and will prioritize this project.

I recommend patrol and detectives conduct the following actions (some may already be occurring):

- Retrieve all video footage related to shootings when taking the report. This should be in the highest resolution format possible so it can be used in CAU products (not video of video but a download of the data to CD, flashdrive, or email). This may require a return trip to the victim for this evidence
- Document each shooting with a report, even if no information beyond shots heard exists (will establish date, time, and location)
- Retrieval of license plate reader information in the area of each shooting, which can be cross-compared between crimes
- Field interviews on vehicles/persons who match shooting suspects
- High visibility patrol at known gang hangouts at times/days identified as high risk for shootings
- Interviews of known and former gang members for intelligence related to:
    - Members
    - Associates
    - Grievances
    - Upcoming events/gatherings/parties
- Review of social media on gangs that are involved as victims or suspects in shootings
- 'Letter of the law' enforcement with problem businesses, landlords, and property owners who may be contributing to criminal behavior or crime planning at/on their premises. This should involve city code enforcement for enforcement of conditional use permits, code violations, and zoning ordinances and ABC for possible liquor violations.
- Ideally, creation of a gang unit or directed enforcement team to gather intelligence on offenders and identify pre-cursors to shootings

Please let me know Jane and I know if there is other analysis that we can conduct to identify patterns associated with shootings. I have attached two maps for your review.
Regards,
Lorie

LORIE VELARDE
SPECIAL PROJECTS CRIME ANALYST
Santa Maria Police Department
lvelarde@cityofsantamaria.org